II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-75. (Cancelled)

Claim 76. (New) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, said dosage form increasing the bioavailability of lovastatin and not increasing the bioavailability of lovastain acid, as compared to the same amount of lovastatin administered in an immediate release dosage form, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 77. (New) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, wherein the bioavailability of lovastatin and its latent and active metabolites at steady state conditions is about 1.4 to about 2 fold the bioavailability attained by the same amount of lovastatin administered once daily in an immediate release dosage form, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 78. (New) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, said dosage form providing an $AUC_{0\text{-}24h}$ of lovastatin of greater than 100% of the $AUC_{0\text{-}24h}$ provided by the same amount of lovastatin administered in an immediate release dosage form, and said dosage form providing an $AUC_{0\text{-}24h}$ of lovastatin acid of less than 100% provided by the same amount of lovastatin administered in an immediate release dosage form, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 79. (New) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, said dosage form after

administration of a single dose providing a ratio of AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin to AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin acid of from about 1:1 to about 3.6:1, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 80. (New) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, said dosage form after once daily administration for 28 days providing a ratio of AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin to AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin acid of from about 0.74:1 to about 2:1, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 81. (New) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, said dosage form after administration of a single dose providing a ratio of Cmax of lovastatin to Cmax of lovastatin acid of from about 1.1:1 to about 5:1.

Claim 82. (New) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, said dosage form after once daily administration for 28 days providing a ratio of Cmax of lovastatin to Cmax of lovastatin acid of from about 0.75:1 to about 3:1.the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 83. (New) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 79, wherein the ratio is about 1.3:1.

Claim 84. (New) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 80, wherein the ratio is about 0.87:1.

Claim 85. (New) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 81, wherein the ratio is about 1.74:1.

Claim 86. (New) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 82, wherein the ratio is about 0.95:1.

Claim 87. (New) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, wherein the Tmax provided by the dosage form is from about 10 to about 32 hours.